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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing Of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for content filtering, comprising:
receiving a request for content from a client computer, where said request includes a port number assigned to an application program running on said client computer;
determining that said port number is a predetermined port number associated with [[a]] the request for content;
renumbering said request with a new port number;
transmitting said request with said new port number to a content filtering server that is configured to listen for requests on said new port number; and
obtaining from said content filtering server an indication of whether said content is restricted based on said request and said new port number.
2. (Original) The method for content filtering of claim 1, wherein said renumbering comprises:
determining a user of said client computer's filtering privilege; and
changing said request with said new port number based on said filtering privilege.
3. (Original) The method for content filtering of claim 1, wherein said obtaining further comprises receiving said requested content, thereby indicating that said content is not restricted.
4. (Original) The method for content filtering of claim 3, further comprising transmitting said content to said client computer.

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5. (Original) The method for content filtering of claim 1, wherein said obtaining further comprises receiving a notification that said content is blocked.
6. (Original) The method for content filtering of claim 5, further comprising notifying said client computer that said content is blocked.
7. (Original) The method for content filtering of claim 5, further comprising:
 - receiving login details from said client computer;
 - authenticating a user of said client computer based on said login details;
 - determining said user's filter privileges based on said login details;
 - ascertaining an additional port number based on said filter privileges;
 - renumbering said request with said additional port number;
 - transmitting said request with said additional port number to a content filtering server that is configured to listen for requests on said additional port number;
 - and
 - acquiring from said content filtering server an indication of whether said content is restricted based on said request and said additional port number.
8. (Original) The method for content filtering of claim 7, wherein said acquiring further comprises receiving said requested content indicating that said content is not restricted.
9. (Original) The method for content filtering of claim 7, wherein said acquiring further comprises receiving a notification that said content is blocked.
10. (Original) The method for content filtering of claim 7, further comprising associating said login details with an Internet Protocol (IP) address of said client computer, such that said method for content filtering applies only to a particular client computer.

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11. (Original) The method for content filtering of claim 1, further comprising, after said receiving, determining an Internet Protocol (IP) address of said client computer, such that said method for content filtering applies only to a particular client computer.

12. (Original) The method for content filtering of claim 1, wherein said determining further comprises ascertaining that said port number is TCP (Transmission Control Protocol) port 80.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) A content filtering gateway, comprising:
a Central Processing Unit (CPU);
communications circuitry; and
input/output ports; and
a memory containing:
an operating system;
a port sniffer;
a database of filtering privileges and associated ~~rarely-used~~ port numbers; and
filtering procedures comprising:
instructions for receiving a request for content from a client computer, where said request includes a port number assigned to an application program running on said client computer;
instructions for determining that said port number is a predetermined port number associated with ~~[[a]]~~ the request for content;
instructions for renumbering said request with one of said ~~rarely-used~~ associated port numbers from the database of filtering privileges to form a new port number;

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instructions for transmitting said request with said ~~one of said rarely used new port numbers~~ number to a content filtering server that is configured to listen for requests on said new port number; and

instructions for obtaining from said content filtering server an indication of whether said content is restricted based on said request and said ~~one of said rarely used new port numbers~~ number.

15. (Original) The content filtering gateway of claim 14, wherein said memory further comprises a filtering database containing a filtering database of Internet Protocol (IP) addresses and their associated filter privileges.

16. (Original) The content filtering gateway of claim 14, wherein said memory further comprises a user database containing login details for multiple users and each user's associated filter privilege.

17. (Original) The content filtering gateway of claim 14, wherein said memory further comprises authentication procedures.

18. (Original) A computer program product for use in conjunction with a computer system for content filtering, the computer program product comprising a computer readable storage and a computer program stored therein, the computer program comprising:

instructions for receiving a request for content from a client computer, where said request includes a port number assigned to an application program running on said client computer;

instructions for determining that said port number is a predetermined port number associated with a request for content;

instructions for renumbering said request with a new port number;

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instructions for transmitting said request with said new port number to a content filtering server that is configured to listen for requests on said new port number; and

instructions for obtaining from said content filtering server an indication of whether said content is restricted based on said request and said new port number.

19. (Currently Amended) A system for content filtering, comprising:

at least one content server that stores content;

at least one client computer configured to transmit a request for said content to said at least one content server, where said request contains an address of said content server and a port number associated with said request for said content ;

a gateway coupled to said at least one client computer, where said gateway is configured to receive and renumber said request with a new ~~rarely-used~~ port number associated with a filter privilege of a user of said at least one client computer;

a content filtering server, configured to block restricted content based on said filter privilege, said request and said new port number; and

a switch coupled to said gateway, said content filtering server, and said at least one content server, where said switch is configured to listen for said request on said ~~rarely-used~~ new port number and to redirect said request to said content filtering server.